Will 3rd Time Be A Charm for Liang?

Jimmy Liang Running for Quincy City Council Ward 6, But Incumbent McNamee Also Counting on Asian American Support

By Adam Smith

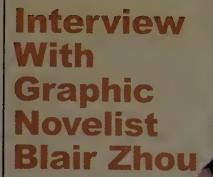
Will the third time prove a charm for Quincy City Council candidate Jimmy Liang? Liang, who is competing for Quincy's Ward 6 council seat, is betting it will.

The 29-year-old's political ambitions began in 2001 with his first race for a citywide seat. He was the first Asian American to run for Quincy's city council, but lost that race and another one in 2003.

He will now wrestle against incumbent Brian McNamee,

CONTINUED PAGE 5





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SAMPAN # #

August 17, 2007 Vol. XXXV

ENGLISH AND CHINESE

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舢舨中文

◎反移民行動反 響猛烈,有關方 面表示擔憂

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Here's Looking At You!



Never too young to dance! Performances at the August Moon festival on August 5.

Photo by Hei Yiu



California State Senator Leland Yee

Another Perspective

California State Senator Shares Views on Asian Americans in Politics

By Adam Smith

California state senator Leland Yee was a long way from home - and his voter base - when he approached the Sampan for an interview last week.

"My staff was saying, 'Leland, why do you want to talk to the press in Boston? You need to just talk to the press in San Francisco, because that's where the votes are.

CONTINUED PAGE 3

Affordable Housing Project Receives Mixed Reaction

Some Call It a Token Offering: Others See It as a Chinatown's Future

By Austin Woerner

Plans are materializing for a new apartment building that could bring more affordable housing to Chinatown.

The Chinese Economic
Development Council last
week unveiled a proposal for a
new 12-story affordable-housing complex on the parking lot
between Oxford and Ping On
streets

The proposed brick-façade tower, which would rise slightly above the neighboring buildings and cut off passage between Oxford and Ping On, is for 48 rental units, offered at

CONTINUED PAGE 4

Developer: Open Bid Could Disrupt Affordable Housing Project

By Adam Smith

Land on Oxford and Ping On streets that a developer is eying for an affordablehousing project is now up for open bid by its owner, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association.

In an emergency meeting on August 14, the Benevolent Association's board voted to put the small parcel of land up for open bid with a minimum selling price of \$700,000.

While the association

CONTINUED PAGE 4



National Education Association Pushes to End Asian Disparities

By Adam Smith

Thought the model-minority myth that all Asian Americans excel in education was old news?

It's not, according to the National Education Association, which has identified many educational disparities among Asian American students and is now supporting a U.S. education bill that would open the door for financial assistance for Asian American and Pacific Islander students.

The College Cost Reduction Act of 2007 was amended by U.S. Congressman David Wu of Oregon to provide grants to colleges and universities to "improve and expand services for low-income" Asian American

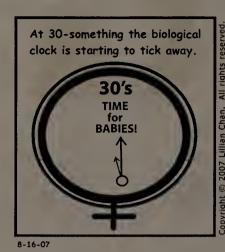
CONTINUED PAGE 6

SAMPAN

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ah-Lin!

by Lillian Chan







Goodbye Letter From the Editor

Dear Readers:

Over the past six years, I have had the great pleasure of editing the English section of the Sampan, Chinatown's oldest and only bilingual community newspaper.

The job was often a struggle, especially when trying to match the journalism of founding and past editors such as Gloria Chun, who got the newspaper started 35 years ago, and Bob O'Malley, whose work here stretched longer than most.

The value of the newspaper, when it is functioning at its best, is immeasurable, as those two have shown. The Sampan is charged with the tremendous responsibility of reporting the news of Chinatown and the Asian American community of

Boston and beyond.

For the newspaper to survive and meet its potential, it must remain editorially independent. It must also offer the same transparency that it expects from the government officials and the organizations it covers.

And, finally, readers must participate as much as possible in the newspaper by asking editors and reporters questions and by writing letters to the editor. Please remember that the Sampan depends on the community, just as the community depends on it. No news is created, only learned and observed and then further researched and, finally, distributed. Reporters learn what's

Reporters learn what's going on from readers, oftentimes, and they gauge if they are on the right track from readers' responses.

Welcome Christopher Rogacz, the new English editor

Christopher will become the new English editor of the Sampan on August 20. He can be contacted at (617) 426-9492, Ext. 207 or Englisheditor@sampan.org.

So please remember to actively communicate with the Sampan so that it can better serve you.

As the newspaper will soon change English editors, the opportunity arises

for a fresh perspective on the news of the neighborhood. Please welcome this perspective and further editorial changes, whatever they may be, with an open mind. And please welcome the new editor, Christopher Rogacz, who will take the newspaper in its new direction.

Finally, before I leave this wonderful newspaper for another job opportunity, I want to thank you for your trust and cooperation over the years. I also want to thank my volunteers Mary Thang, Lillian Chan, Yuet Ng, Austin Woerner, Amy Chin, and others, who've been involved along the way, such as Ann Chang, Kenneth Kan, and Anh Nguyen.

Sincerely,

Adam Smith

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Interview With California State Senator Leland Yee

FROM PAGE 1

You cannot get elected in Boston, so don't waste your time," said Yee during his interview in Boston's Chinatown on August 7.

Yee, California's first Chinese American state senator, was in town for the National Conference of State Legislatures on August 8. He also attended the annual meeting of the National Asian Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators, which he helped found, and he moderated a panel on Asian Pacific American health awareness.

"I think that the reason I'm doing this is that it is extremely important for me to reach out to you because you are very, very important," Yee said, referring to why he wanted to speak to Chinese press in Boston, during his one-on-one interview with the Sampan.

There are no Asians in the Massachusetts state

legislature. Maybe the stories that you write and the experiences that I've had will resonate with someone and inspire some young person, maybe in college right now, and he's studying for a chemistry exam and he takes a break, picks up your paper and says, "If he can do it, maybe I can do it, too."

A native of China, Yee immigrated to the U.S. with his family at age three. He grew up in San Francisco's Chinatown and attended the city's public attended the city's public schools. Though he earned his doctorate in child psychology at the University of Hawaii, Yee gradually became attracted to politics after beginning a career in mental health and educa-

In 1996, he was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. In 2003, he moved up to the state legislature as an Assemblyman, becoming the state's first Asian American Speaker Pro Tempore, the second-highest position in the legislature. He was elected to the State Senate in 2006.

You had studied child psychology. How did you make that transition to politics?

I thought I was going to retire as a psychologist. I spent five years working in a mental health program in the city; I did 10 years in the school district, and six years in a nonprofit community-based organization.

I think life takes all kinds of different routes. [My wife and I] had kids in the public school, and we started to complain about how you improve the quality of public education. The next thing you know, someone says, 'Well, if you really want to make a change, you should run for the board of education.' So I ran and I lost my first race and two years later came back and won that race. That's how I got involved in politics.

How did your family respond?

Most Asian parents don't see their children becoming a politician. That's not something we raise our



Leland Yee

Photo from http://dist08.casen.govoffice.com/

children to do at all. So they were a little disappointed that I decided to take a different path. But I told them that part of the reason I want to do that is because, working as a psychologist, I helped children. Now, working as an elected official, I can also help children. They have their angst about me being a politician, but I think in general they're very sup-portive and I think they understand why I do what I have to do.

In which role - child psychologist or state lawmaker - do you feel you can be more effective at helping children?

I think that working in a community-based organi-zation is extremely reward ing, because you have a lot of freedom and you're not encumbered by a lot of bureaucracy. You can look at issues very honestly and openly and then do the right thing. I think that that's a tremendously selfrewarding kind of experience to do what your heart and conviction tell you to do. When you work at that level, it's very gratifying. And when you work with individual kids, it's very gratifying. Working as an elected official, the gratification comes in a different way. It is not as direct as you would like and it is not as immediate as you would like. You can affect one child when you're doing individual therapy but, as an elected official, you can affect a lot more people. That is the gratification, knowing that laws that you pushed through are going to help literally millions of children. For example, getting more social and support services for children in our schools. You don't see the individual child, but the thought of helping thousands of kids, millions of kids, that's very gratifying.

What was it like first arriving in San Francisco as a **Chinese immigrant?**

When I went to school, I did not know a word of English, and my teacher did not know a word of Chinese. So it was hard to learn. I remember when I was a little boy, my teacher would be explaining things to us, and when she would turn around to write on the blackboard, I would turn to my classmates and say

'what did she say,' and they would translate for me. That's how I learned because back in those days there was no bilingual education, and everything was in English.

The worst thing was to ask your mother to come to school to visit your teacher. Even if the teacher said good things, [my mother] might not have understood. So every time you go to school with your mother, she always thinks it's something bad. She doesn't understand what you're saying so she gets mad at you in the meeting and then when you get home, she gets mad at you

How about later on in your life?

Growing up in Chinatown, we really didn't face discrimination.

The reason for that was we lived in Chinatown and back in those days...when I was growing up, anything and everything you needed was inside Chinatown -you had your grocery store, meat market, your clothing store, your movie theater, your bookstore -you never had to go out. You kind of lived in a protective environment. You didn't feel discriminated against. It was only when I left Chinatown and went to high school that I would begin to see some of that.

Now, you've become the first Chinese American in the California State Senate.

California started about 156 years ago. So, as far as the history of the Senate, there has never been a Chinese American. When I tell people that, it's hard for them to believe it. Part of it is that people in my generation just never got involved in politics, so it's not that easy to get people to become a politician. Then in California, it's very competitive. You cannot just go into the Senate; you cannot just go into the Assembly. You have to go to a lower position and go up, and that takes a lot of time.

Why do you feel it's important for Asian Americans to be in those political positions?

I think there are two things. Number one, the quality of the representation is a lot better. Not to say that whites cannot represent the Chinese, but the quality of representation is a little bit better. You understand the needs of the community a little bit better because you are part of that community. You listen, you hear. You go to coffee shops; you go shopping; you hear the conversation that goes on. People...who may not speak English...will come up to you and talk to you and explain their needs. You're a lot more open and accessible.

[Also], when you shape public policy, you know you have to shape it so that it is culturally and linguistically sensitive. The health care industry is a good example: You can't have health services in a language that someone cannot understand.

The other thing is that all of us grow up looking at others to figure out what they want to do, and how to behave in the larger world....It's very important that children see their Chinese-elected official because when they start thinking about what they're going to be doing, if there is someone that is part of a particular profession, they can then start thinking: If they can do it, maybe I can do it, too. It is extremely important to open all the doors, as many as we can for our children. It's extremely important to serve as a role model for these children.

Do you have any future plans to run for another office? U.S. **Senate? Governor of** California?

I think that one of the things about me is that sometimes I still can't believe that I'm in the Senate. I'm very, very thankful to the people who helped me get in and I want to do a good job. It's hard to do a good job if you're thinking about something else. So my goal is to just stay focused on taking care of the people in the community and just taking care of that. No, I don't have any plans at this particular time.

What do you think about Sam Yoon's success in Boston on the city council?

I supported him. One of the nice things about this network of Asian-elected officials is that we're able to help each other out and that we're able to support one another. I'm hoping that people like Sam will continue to work hard, earn the respect of the community, and eventually continue to move up. I'm hoping that now that a Korean American gets elected here in Boston, maybe finally a Chinese can come out, and so on.

You've shown an interest in Asian American health. What do you think is a challenge to Asian American health?

Unfortunately, Asians tend to have a different association and that is that we don't have any problems. We don't have any social problems; we don't have

any mental health prob-lems, and we don't have a health problem. Everything is fine. We all work hard, save money, have a career, and that's about it. That doesn't happen. Not all the time. We do have some major health problems.

What about mental health? As a former child psychologist, do you feel there are any mental health challenges particular to **Asian Americans?**

Yes. I think the classic example of the mental health needs of the Asian community is a young adult, who has straight As in school, maybe is a graduate student, no problem whatsoever, and all of a sudden commits suicide. That's a classic example of the hidden problem within the Asian community around mental health issues and not knowing how to deal with it.

It's an ongoing problem and the difficulty is that we tend not to talk about it. Policy makers don't see that we should, in fact, provide funds for mental health programs for Asian Americans. It's not like other communities who raise concerns, go to city council or state legislators and say this is a problem.

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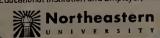
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Mixed Interpretations of Transliteration Ruling

By Austin Woerner

A federal court ruling on the issue of transliterated candidate names on Chinese bilingual ballots has left the parties involved with differing impressions of who won the case.

On August 3, a U.S. district court issued an order denying the U.S. Justice Department's petition to clarify that bilingual ballots must include transliterated candidate names.

Brian McNiff, spokesperson for the Massachusetts Secretary of State William Galvin, who opposes transliteration of the names, said that the secretary feels vindicated by the court ruling.

"The court's position is the secretary's position," he said.

A 2005 settlement between the Department of Justice and the City of Boston required the city to provide "fully-translated bilingual ballots" in voting precincts with large percentages of Chinese voters. The issue returned to the federal court after the Justice Department moved to clarify that bilingual ballots must include transliterated candidate names, which would have required the secretary to print transliterated ballots in a state Senate primary this past spring. Galvin,

arguing that transliteration could give rise to confusion and unintended meanings, challenged the motion.

The City of Boston has already printed ballots with transliterated names in a local election.

Some Chinatown activists felt a recent Boston Globe article painted the August 3 ruling as a victory for the secretary as it reported that "candidate names won't be transliterated" as a result of the ruling.

However, proponents of transliteration point out that the ruling leaves the issue up in the air.

"Basically, the ruling leaves the status," wrote

Lydia Lowe of the Chinese Progressive Association in a press release.

Lawyer Chris Mirick of Cadwalader, which provides legal advice for several Chinatown community organizations, noted that the court did not expressly rule against transliteration; all it did was say it did not have the authority to make a ruling on the matter.

"They have not said anything about transliteration," said Mirick. "All they've said is, we're not going to issue an order [to clarify the settlement]. It was more of a procedural ruling."

Under the current ruling, the Massachusetts
Department of State can continue printing ballots for state and federal elections without transliterated names, and the City of Boston can continue to print ballots with transliterated names for local elections, Mirick explained.

McNiff declined to comment on whether the secretary would move to

forbid the city from printing transliterated names. He noted that transliterated names would certainly appear on Boston ballots in the upcoming preliminaries.

It is unlikely that this is the last act of the bilingual ballot drama. Mirick said it is possible that the Department of Justice will pursue further actions, such as suing the State of Massachusetts or renewing its 2005 lawsuit against the City of Boston.

Although the U.S. District Court did not refer the question to the Massachusetts Supreme Court, the parties still might try to bring it before the court, Mirick added.

Affordable Housing Project Receives Mixed Reaction

FROM PAGE 1

mostly affordable rates, said Dennis Lui of the CEDC.

To execute the proposed project, the CEDC has joined hands with developer Ori Ron of Hudson Group North America, LLC, who aims to convert the aging Dainty Dot Hosiery building on 120 Kingston St. into a 29-story luxury-housing tower.

To create the affordable-housing development site, which is currently a parking lot next to Sun Sun Market, the CEDC will use land given by Ron as well as land it hopes to purchase from a Chinatown group, the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association.

At a community meeting announcing the plans on August 8, Ron and members of the CEDC stressed the project's potential benefits for Chinatown. Ron, who in effect would pay for the development of 27 of the affordable units of the project, lauded the CEDC for its plan to offer 20 more units at affordable prices.

If successful, the groups would create an affordable-housing tower with nearly twice the number of units required by the City of Boston for Ron's proposed luxury high-rise at Kingston St.

Under a City of Boston development policy, most new residential projects must provide affordable housing units equal to 15%

Chinatown Meetings

- Chinatown Council meets the third Mon. of the month, 6 p.m., 90 Tyler St.
- Chinatown Resident Association meets the first Wed. of the month, 6:30 p.m., the Josiah Quincy School.
- Chinatown Safety
 Committee meets the first
 Wed. of the month, 10:30
 a.m. at the DoubleTree
 Hotel on Washington St.
- The Chinatown
 Coalition meets on the second Thu of the month,
 9:30 a.m., at the Boston
 Chinatown Neighborhood
 Center board room, 4th floor, 38 Ash Street.

of the market-rate units being built. If developers don't want to build the affordable units on site, they may instead pay cash -- about \$200,000 per unit -for the construction of the affordable housing in another location.

Ron is opting to do the latter, and will provide the CEDC with the mandated sum of about \$5.4 million, which includes about 4,340 square feet of donated land at Ping On and Oxford streets. This, the groups say, will allow them to create the required affordable housing and possibly much more.

Lui praised Ron for swearing not to open the doors of his development until the Oxford St. project is completed.

"This would be realized gains for Chinatown, instead of waiting for some date in the future," said Lui of the CEDC.

According to the current plan, the developers would offer half the affordable project's units to city residents earning moderate incomes of about 60% of Boston's area median income. The other half would be for low-income earners: A quarter of the units would be rented to Boston residents earning about a third of the city's median income, and the other quarter would be rented through a federal subsidy program, called Section 8, that allows tenants to pay only a third of their income in rent.

Ron called this "a very aggressive plan" for an affordable-housing project.

The project will not likely be completed until three years from now, said Lui. In addition, the question remains of how the CEDC will obtain the rest of the \$22 to \$23 million required to construct the development. Lui says the CEDC plans to use tax credits and explore other forms of fundraising.

If approved, the afford-

If approved, the affordable housing tower would be the CEDC's first large-scale development project since it constructed Mei Wah Village, an affordable housing complex, 11 years ago. The CEDC, through a for-profit corporation, also owns and operates Oxford Place, located across the street from the proposed

affordable-housing project, which is one reason why Ron said he chose the CEDC.

There is no clear consensus among Chinatown community members as to whether the new affordable building would be a boon or a burden. This is because it's tied to the proposed Kingston St. highrise. Those who oppose the plan cite concerns that the construction of a 380-foot luxury apartment complex on Kingston St. will feed the frenzy of area development, further driving up rents and forcing working-class residents out of Chinatown.

"This huge influx of luxury housing has sped up the gentrification of the neighborhood," said Lydia Lowe of the Chinese Progressive Association, referring to recent luxury developments such as Archstone Boston Common and the Kensington Place, both of similar size.

Shirley Kressel, a neighborhood activist and former landscape architect, echoed Lowe's sentiment. "These little affordablehousing tokens are merely greasing the wheels for the destruction of the neighborhood," said Kressel.

However, some are more optimistic about the effects of the Kingston tower and its little sister on Oxford Street.

Anna Yee, a community activist, expects that the affordable housing project would stabilize the neighborhood and help the community grow, especially as Chinatown's role as a hub of immigration appears to be dwindling. "I think Chinatown still has a role to play for new immigrants," she said.

The housing tower on Kingston Street could have its benefits, too, according to Tony Yee, president of Chinatown Main Streets. An influx of new residents could help Chinatown's businesses, and increased foot traffic could make the neighborhood safer, he said

Ron says that he will not proceed with the luxury development unless he has full support of the Chinatown community. "I have no intentions of going against the neighborhood," he declared. He claims that, at present, he has the support of 70% of individuals and groups involved, but judging from reactions at community meetings, many are still uneasy with the project.

Ron may have a tough row to hoe in order to con-

vince dissenters like Lowe.
"We have made it very
clear that we cannot support the project the way it
is," said Lowe. "We keep
telling him that we oppose
it, but I think he has selective hearing."

According to Lowe, the Chinese Progressive

Association, the Chinatown Resident Association, and the Chinese Historical Society of New England are among those who still oppose the project.

Nonetheless, Ron is still confident. "The debate goes on, and the project goes on," he said.

Developer: Open Bid Could Disrupt Affordable Housing Project

FROM PAGE 1

maintains the sale would allow it to potentially maximize profit and allow for a fair and transparent sale, the bid could jeopardize an affordable-housing proposal already underway for the property. The affordable-housing

The affordable-housing proposal would combine the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association's property with other land to create a development site for up to 48 units of low- and moderate-income housing.

Planning is underway between the Chinese Economic Development Council and a private developer, the Hudson Group, to develop the properties as affordable housing. The Hudson Group, which is planning to build a luxury apartment tower at 120 Kingston St., would use the affordable housing to meet a city requirement to provide low- and moderate-income housing when constructing new resident market-rate residential

housing.

The Hudson Group
had earlier offered to buy
the 2,072-square-foot parcel from the Benevolent
Association for about
\$535,000, according to Kai
Lau of the Benevolent
Association, but the group
made no deposit, and the

offer never progressed.
Earlier this month,
another potential buyer
expressed interest in the
land. Kee Soon Lee, president of the Lee Family

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Parking lot behind Sun Sun

Association and a board member of the Benevolent Association, said he would be willing to pay the \$700,000 price for the property. Just last week, the

Hudson Group and the Chinese Economic Development Council had appeared confident they would secure the property and combine it with 4,340-square feet of abutting land already owned by the Hudson Group. The combined land, which makes up the parking lot near Sun Sun Market, would then be developed as affordable housing.

If the two groups, however, cannot purchase the land as planned, the affordable-housing project could be reduced by up to 15 units, said Dennis Lui, project manager of the Council

"We're not surprised" by the decision to create an open bid, said Lui. "They should keep the process as open as possible, but we are on a tight timeline...If they don't act by September 30, we're going to strongly examine building on the...properties that the Hudson Group currently owns."

The bid will close on August 28 at 4 p.m. and will require a \$35,000 deposit. The decision as to who gets the property could come as early as September, said Lau of the Benevolent Association.

"Because it is a non-profit association, the board of directors feels that they should let the community know if any-body has any interest to bid," said Gilbert Ho, the treasurer of the Chinese Consolidated Benevolent Association, of the board's decision to open the bid. Ho and Lau said that the profit from the sale would be used for the association's "mission," and could include the creation of affordable housing.

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Equal Housing Opportunity

Jimmy Liang Runs for Quincy Council a Third Time

FROM PAGE 1

who first ran for the Ward 6 seat in 1997. McNamee lost the race but finally won the last election in 2005.

Liang, a businessman who owns several restaurants and a construction company, said his candidacy this year for city council was a surprise -- even to him - at first.

"The whole truth and nothing but the truth: The first time I heard of my own candidacy was when someone from the Elections office called me and said, 'Congratulations on your nomination papers....' I had no idea what was going on," said Liang.

Later that day, he said, his cousin, Tony Liang, who is now his campaign treasurer, called him up and said: "I need to talk to you about something."

"What happened was a bunch of former supporters of mine got together, and they all thought it would be a great opportunity for me to run for office again," he said.

Liang said he has restructured his restaurant and construction companies so that he would have minimal involvement with them during the campaign, except for approving projects.

Though his grandfather

was born in the U.S. and Liang's great grandfather lived in the U.S. as a railroad worker, Liang was born in China and came to the U.S. at about age four

the U.S. at about age four.

"My family history goes way back with the U.S.," he said. "I am a bi-product of both cultures. My ethnicity is Chinese, but I grew up in the city of Quincy; I went through the public school systems and things like that."

Liang attended but never completed studies at Quincy College and the University of Massachusetts. Instead, he went into business for himself with partner Peter Tse, and opened his first sushi restaurant, Fuji, at age 20 in 1998.

Running for Ward 6 instead of the citywide seat made sense, he said, because he spends nearly all his work and home life in North Quincy.

"On a day-to-day basis, I see everything that's been going on in this area," he said.

In addition, he said that being a ward councilor allows for more intimate work with constituents than being a citywide councilor.

"You have a better chance of talking to them, listening to what their concerns are. I just think it's a bit more rewarding. With the ward city council,



Jimmy Liang

On a day-today basis, I see everything that's been going on in this area. JIMMY LIANG

you're touching people every day," he said.

While his opponent, McNamee, emphasizes the nitty-gritty work of the council -- such as street repairs, noise control and snow removal -- Liang's platform promotes what he calls his ability to mediate and communicate.

He can speak English, Cantonese, Toisanese and some Mandarin -- a potentially useful skill in Quincy where more than 10,500 residents identify themselves as Chinese.

"I want to stick to my issues of unity and communication. I understand



Brian McNamee

that the city of Quincy is very diverse. I think that to have somebody that understands both cultures as a city councilor, I think would help serve the city better," he said.

Liang also plans to promote the public safety of pedestrians and drivers as part of his platform.

"In this area, there have been a lot of accidents because we are the gateway to the city of Quincy [and] the South Shore. There is a lot of traffic that is coming in and out. There's a lot of traffic congestion and that is something that I plan on working on."

ing on."

McNamee, however, is holding out that voters will reelect him for his accomplishments over his first year and a half.

"I'm doing the job" was his answer to why he feels he should be kept in office

he should be kept in office.

"A lot of people think that somehow the job that I do is a glamorous one but it's not," he said. It's a job, he said, that includes ensuring street and sidewalk repairs, tree maintenance, enforcement of parking rules, quick responses to flooding, ice removal, and working with residents around building development proposals

A 27-year resident of Quincy, McNamee said he's a longtime community activist and first ran for council 10 years ago because he was "very upset with the way the business district was being treated by the city."

He said the city was not providing adequate services and the area was becoming run down.

"The Inspectional
Services office wasn't
enforcing any of the laws
regarding signage and the
way the properties were
being maintained by the
landlords. I got involved
to change that so we

would attract stronger and better business tenants for that area, knowing that that's the nucleus of the neighborhood.

If you have a business district that's in decay, that's going to affect the residential quality of life in the neighborhood."

So far, McNamee has appealed to residents like Lola Tom, who was formerly active in Chinatown and supported Liang's first two runs.

Tom, who has joined the Committee to Elect Brian McNamee, said the councilor has supported Quincy Asian Resources, an educational and social services nonprofit for Asian Americans, of which Tom is a board member. She also said he's been helpful to Asian American

constituents and that he is open to Asian culture.

But Liang's supporters, such as his cousin, Tony Liang, feel that the Chinese American candidate will more effectively support the Asian American constituency of North Quincy.

"I think that with the growing Asian community in the City of Quincy, they do need a voice," said Tony Liang.

But Tom, who also supports another Asian American citywide candidate, Victor Ng, suggested race shouldn't supersede performance.

"We hope that the Asian constituents can come and vote for the candidate and what he represents," she said, "versus somebody just for their race and ethnicity."

Jimmy's Views

Campaign Strategy

Liang said that for this election, he's been reaching out for more volunteer help than in previous campaigns. He says that over the past month, he's already secured 60 volunteers.

"In my previous at-large races, I didn't get to talk to as many people as I should have, and I wasn't able to generate that many volunteers. At best, I had 20 to 30 volunteers in my last two runs."

Thoughts on the Quincy 4

Quincy 4 refers to a group of local Asian Americans, three of whom were recently found guilty of crimes including resisting arrest and disorderly conduct. The group, however, says they're innocent and they accuse the Quincy police of unnecessarily roughing them up and then arresting them.

Liang said he's been "dear" friends

Liang said he's been "dear" friends with Karen Chen, one of those involved in the case, and he said "it was very unfortunate that it happened."

But without witnessing the actual event, he said it's a case of the police's word against the Quincy 4's.

He also said he could see both sides of the story, but that he did feel the verdict was too harsh. The sentences for two of the Quincy 4 members included serving the first 10 days of a six-month suspended prison sentence as well as two years' probation for two. Chen was given 18 months' probation for another.

"I don't think the ruling was fair.

"I don't think the ruling was fair. Now some of these young adults that never had a record, now have a record over a small dispute. That's a shame."

On Mayor Phelan

"A lot of cities and towns in Massachusetts have had to cut their arts programs [and] sports programs during tough times because there's been a shortfall in state aid. But the City of Quincy has not had to do that. I think he's done a good job balancing the budget and under his administration we have not had to raise taxes.

"My parents are happy because their taxes haven't gone up. My nieces and nephews are happy because they haven't had their arts or sports programs cut. So I would have to say I'm pretty happy."

Northeastern University I.S. & Technology Support Specialist

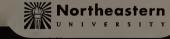
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Understanding Drug Labels When You Don't Speak or Read English

And What You and Your Doctor Can Do About It

By M. Thang

If your non-English-speaking mom went to the pharmacy for her medication, would she understand the instructions and precautions on the label? Or would someone at the pharmacy be able to explain the drug information to her?

Probably not, according to a study led by Dr. Glenn Flores, professor of pediatrics and public health at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical

In the study, published in the August issue of the journal Pediatrics, 128 pharmacies responded to a survey that asked what types of services they provide to their non-English-speaking customers.

The survey results revealed that limited-English-proficient customers in pharmacies face major barriers to receiving high-quality care. About half the pharmacies never or only sometimes could provide non-English-language prescription-drug labels or information packets. When it came to spoken communication, interpretation services fared

Over three out of five of the surveyed pharmacies never or only sometimes could effectively speak in non-English languages.

Of those pharmacies that could give written information in a foreign language, about half said they depended on computer software to do so, for prescription labels (88%) and information packets (95%). Dr. Flores and his research team - including

investigators Michael Bradshaw and Sandra Tomany-Korman, both of Medical College of Wisconsin - were unable to assess in the study the translation accuracy or quality of the computer software used by the phar-

The pharmacies that could speak with their limited-English-proficient cus-tomers used billing staff (67%), telephone interpreters (33%), and a family member or friend (11%).

The 128 surveyed pharmacies were in Milwaukee County, Wis., where 73,355 people are foreign-born, and 129,357 residents speak a non-English language at home, according to 2005 statistics from the U.S. Census.

The surveyed pharmacies included national chains such as Wal-Mart, CVS, and Walgreens.

The survey showed that half of the pharmacists were unsatisfied with their ability to provide foreignlanguage assistance to their customers.

Pharmacies provided six main suggestions for improving patient communication: having employees receive continuing education, producing a chainwide list of resources, hiring bilingual staff, using telephone interpreters, analyzing translation quality or accuracy of labels and information packets, and adding more languages to pharmacies' software.

Meanwhile, what can you do to help your non-English-speaking mom for her prescription-medication needs? Dr. Flores, who is also director of general pediatrics at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center and Children's Medical Center

Dallas, advises several

Ask her doctor to specify on all her prescriptions that the prescription labels and accompanying information packets should be written in her language.

At the pharmacy, make sure that all drug labels, package inserts, and written information are in that language. If not, request a written translation or ask to speak to a bilingual employee of the pharmacy. Another option is to ask the pharmacist to use a telephone-interpreter service. Pharmacies often have access to such phone services, but they may not use them routinely, said

Dr. Flores in an e-mail. If your mom still can't get help, you or your doctor should inform the pharmacy that you would appreciate their language services - written and

spoken — in the future.

Safety-minded pharmacies should want to provide such services. Indeed, said Dr. Flores: "Every year, as many as 168 million prescriptions in the U.S. may be written in a language that patients cannot fully understand, posing potentially serious risks of medical errors and injury."

Still, does the law require pharmacies to provide translation services?

Indirectly, yes. A federal regulation, Title VI, states that it is a form of discrimination to not provide language services to patients with limited-English proficiency,

according to Dr. Flores.
"[lt] is your right under federal law," he said. lt's also Mom's health.

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Education Association Pushes to End Asian Disparities

FROM PAGE 1

and Pacific Islander American students, according to Wu's office. Currently, the U.S Department of Education is only authorized to provide such financial assistance to colleges and universities serving African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, Native Alaskans and Native

Blacks and Hispanics and Native Americans, they have colleges and universities that help to meet

the needs of their particular communities. I would say that it would certainly be good to have the same thing for Asian American and Pacific Islander students," said Reg Weaver, president of the National Education Association, during a telephone press conference with Asian American media, including the Sampan.

'What we find, in our Asian American communities, are many of the same kinds of things that we find in many of the other minority communities.

The bill, H.R. 2669, has passed the U.S. House and could be debated by the U.S. Senate as early as September, said Jillian

Schoene, a spokesperson for Congressman Wu.

The National Education Association and Wu contend that because of the socalled "model-minority myth" that Asians perform well, colleges and universities that serve many lowincome Asian American and Pacific Islander students have lacked access to certain federal financial aid.

But while some Asian American groups, such as Korean and Japanese Americans, statistically perform highly in academics and have low dropout rates, others, such as Hmong and Laotian Americans, typically perform poorly and tend to have more economic challenges, the association found.

For example, six in 10 Hmong Americans over age 25 have less than a high school education, and the same goes for about half of all Cambodian and Vietnamese Americans in the same age group. Meanwhile, the national graduation rate for everyone over age 25 is 85%.

'You can see the same bi-modal level of achievement if you look at who's graduating from colleges," said Matthew Finucane, the senior liaison for minority community outreach at the National Education Association.

While about 64% of Asian Indian Americans hold advanced degrees, less than'8% of Hmongs have such higher education, he said, quoting statistics from the 2000 U.S.

"Our concern is that when people look at achievement in the community, they often look at the average — they look at the aggregate figures and say, 'Well, this figure is higher than average. But if you break it out and look at individual subgroups, you'll see that there are many challenges," said

The National Education Association also said this week that it supports several other national initiatives to improve the education of low-income Asian American and Pacific lslander American students, such as:

Enhancing research on the population so that it looks at each ethnic group individually.

Creating and funding policies of the federal No Child Left Behind Act that ensure schools can better serve and assess Englishlanguage learners.

Training public school teachers so that they are culturally competent and so that they can teach history lessons that include important Asian Americans and Pacific Islander Americans.

HEALTH 101

Quick Tips for Heart Health

You probably can't watch the national evening news for an entire week without finding out some new information about cardiovascular disease.

The truth is, we get bombarded with different pieces of information about how to take care of our hearts: do this, eat that, don't drink this, avoid that. It can be overwhelming! The truth is that there is so much to process, and it is unrealistic to expect to incorporate all of these health tips into your everyday life. So, let's get to the

Cardiovascular disease. You hear it all the time, but may not know what exactly it refers to. The truth is that it is a very broad term for various problems that can arise in the heart or in the blood vessels (the arteries and veins that carry blood to and from your heart). As you probably know, the heart is a blood pump that supplies oxygen to the rest of the body, which is necessary for the brain, internal organs, and muscles to function properly.

Cardiovascular diseases result in a compromise of the heart's ability to pump, such as in the case of coronary artery disease (narrowing of the arteries supplying the heart) and hypertension (caused by high blood pressure).

Problems of this nature have very serious implicafact that approximately one-third of deaths in the United States are claimed by cardiovascular disease.

Below are a few simple lifestyle tips that are very important for not just preventing heart disease, but for feeling healthy and energetic as well.

1. Eat low-fat, low-cholesterol foods. This might not even mean a complete change to your diet, but making some simple changes, such as trimming the fat from meat and the skin from chicken when cooking, buying low-fat milk and cheeses in the grocery store, and substituting that midday snack of chips or cookies with a fruit or

vegetable. 2. Exercise. This is one we do hear all the time, but it is easier said than done, right? It is important to keep in mind that any amount of physical activity is better than none at all. This does not have to mean jogging or going to the gym. Simple, everyday changes such as taking the stairs instead of the elevator, taking a short walk during your lunch break at work, or doing some situps or push ups when you wake up in the morning are just a few ideas. Remember that any exercise is beneficial to your

heart! 3. Track your blood pres-

tions as exemplified by the sure and cholesterol. If you don't know these numbers already, then it would be a good idea to find them out the next time you visit your doctor. In general, you want to have a total cholesterol under 200 and a blood pressure under 120/80. Discussions of these numbers with your doctor will allow you to be

> low salt, low-sodium foods helps to lower and prevent high blood pressure, while low-fat, low-cholesterol foods help to lower and prevent high cholesterol.
>
> 4. Maintain a healthy weight. As we all know, this one can be very difficult to achieve. In many doctors' offices and gyms, there is a chart that shows you what a healthy weight is for different heights. It is good to look at this chart and see what the healthy weight range is for you. If you are within that range, then you work to maintain that weight, and if you are over your healthy weight, then you can set a long-term goal to reach that weight range. Making nutritional food choices and exercising daily will help you to achieve these goals. 5. Don't smoke. Many peo-

ple think that smoking is

just harmful because of its increased risk for lung can-

cer. The truth is that smok-

ing increases risk for a large

more proactive for your

Remember that eating

own health.

number of diseases including cardiovascular disease.

Quitting smoking provides immediate health benefits, and it is never too late to quit.

We know too much about cardiovascular disease to let it affect as many people as it does. Making some simple changes will decrease your risk for cardiovascular disease and set the right example for your family on how to take care of your own health. Start today!

- Joshua Arkin

This health article was funded by the Asian Health Initiative of Tufts-New England Medical Center.

New Internet ESL Program for Adult Students

The Asian American Civic Association, which publishes the Sampan, is starting a new program called Internet ESL Funded by English for New Bostonians, the program is designed for students who cannot attend regular English as a Second Language classes due to their work or family schedules. They should not be beginner-level English learners, and they should be interested in using computers. Students do not go to classes but work from home or anywhere they

have access to a computer to follow an Internet-based English program to improve their reading, writing, listening and speaking. Students can study at their own pace, and they will receive support from an experienced ESL teacher by phone, email, Web camera or in face-to-face meetings. The first orientation sessions will be scheduled in late August or early September. To apply for Internet ESL or for more information, e-mail Diana Satin at dsatin@aacaboston.org.

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Interview With Blair Zhou, Graphic Novelist

By Yang Yang

With contribution from Bing

Several years ago, Blair Zhou started drawing cartoon characters and circulating her pictures among friends and classmates. Now, they are characters in her first graphic novel, which is being published simultaneously in China and the U.S.

Zhou, born in Boston in 1988 and raised and educated in China and the U.S., has a passion for drawing Japanese manga-style cartoons and writing

Upon graduating from high school, she was named a Presidential Scholar -- an award for outstanding students signed by both President Bush and the Secretary of Education. She is currently studying cartoon animation and directing at the Tisch School of Arts at New York University.

Ragnarok is an original graphic fantasy novel with an inventive narrative structure and lavishly-rendered images. Zhou drew inspiration from Disney cartoons and the computer game "Ragnarok Online" to spin a tale of drama and derring-do -- with a cast of attractive young warriors inhabiting a fantasy uniThe novel has already been published in China, and an English version is forthcoming.

What is your goal in writing comic books? Is it to provide escapist flights of fancy for the reader?

First, you have to view my

drawings together with my story. My drawings are about people's feelings, and my writing is about people's feelings. Feelings are universal -- they aren't divided by boundaries of race, age, sex or nationality. It's just like back when I was playing the computer game "Ragnarok Online" -you can communicate with all the other kids who are playing the game around the world, not just in the English-speaking world but also in Japan, Korea, and China. It was playing this game that sparked the idea for my graphic novel. When playing the game, you can talk to other players about game techniques and strategies, but also exchange "reward coupons" and buy each others' clothing and armor and so forth.

You're completely uninfluenced by age or gender or nationality -- I've played with 8-year-olds and 30year-olds. The game brings completely different people together because of their common interest in

the game. And this brings me to my second point: I wanted to write a story, a story inspired by a computer game. Through my story I wanted to tell people: If you're willing, things that seem completely trivial can become significant -- for example, a computer came can inspire a whole novel.

Is your story drawn from reality or fanta-sy? Or both?

Both, of course. It's like 1 take a clump of soil from reality, carry it into the land of fantasy, moisten it with the waters of imagination, and sculpt it into a person. But I'd have to say that most of it comes from fantasy.

For example, in the game, when you reach the 99th level, a goddess can cause you to be "reborn" with greater strength and more advanced skills. This made me think of the Tree of Life. In Western culture there are lots and lots of legends about the Tree of Life. It's mentioned in the Bible, and there's also a Norse myth about a Tree of Life, with infinite power, and a really funny name I can't remember.. The game also mentions it, a tree growing on the border of the Underworld. All this sparked my

imagination.
So in my story, I invented a myth about a goddess sent to guard a Tree of Life with infinite I have a theory, based

on my experience playing "Ragnarok." It is exactly because people are different that they can come together. Why? For example, I've never been to Canada, but my best friend online was a little kid from Canada. He was just like me -- he played "Ragnarok," and he also wanted to write out some stories based on the game. I had exactly the same idea. The game's limited in the sense that all you do is fight, fight, fight; it's never explained what you're fighting for, so it gets a little boring. So 1 wanted to come up with a story based on my most

experiences playing the game · - for example, how that different people are drawn together?

Your characters are for the most part idealized characters. But isn't this a little too simplistic?

My characters certainly fit into some set archetypes, without much in the way of internal contradictions or character development. You could say I haven't had enough experience, or that my characters each represent a certain virtue, so their personalities are

In truth, I really pay attention to emotions and to the differences between characters. My drawings are very influenced by Japanese anime and Disney cartoons. Japanese anime emphasizes emotion: the exaggerated, dewy eyes and the characters' facial expressions give the reader a vivid image of an emotion, whether it's joy or sadness or anger. Disney cartoons, however, are all about playful motion and childish stories. When you look at my drawings, you have to look at the eyes: they express the moods of the characters, and their moods are their stories. My story is more about emotional growth - there isn't a whole lot of fighting. I want people to under-stand the large-as-life

emotions of these little characters, their first encounters with love, hate, hurt, pain, and so forth; as well their faults, how they develop and change, or are incapable of changing.

Can you tell me about how Eastern and Western culture have influenced you?

l live in the environment of both Eastern and Western cultures, so it goes without saying that I've been influenced by them both. This influence comes not just from books but also from everyday life. I go to school in the U.S, but I spend my summers in China; my parents are in the U.S., but my grandmother and relatives are in China. Western culture emphasizes independence and individuality, and so my characters are both independent and individual; Eastern culture emphasizes cooperation and commonality, and so my characters must cooperate to defeat their common enemies.

And so in the last few chapters, the characters embark on five different paths, but in the end they must gather together for a final battle.

Translated by Austin Woerner

Book Review: Revolutionary Chinese Cookbook Recipes from Hunan Province by Fuchsia that this trove of information recorded the culinary habits of Ribbons in Hot Sesame Sauce

Province by Fuchsia Dunlop

By Ann Chang

You can't have too many Chinese cookbooks. There are so many recipes and variations that will be in one book, but absent in the next. That does not mean there are no repeats - but the variety seems endless.

It's good to see a cookbook that is so totally different as is 'The Revolutionary Chinese Cookbook." Most cookbook offerings are for Cantonese recipes, while the "Revolutionary Chinese Cookbook" concentrates on the food of Hunan - known to be spicy but also ancient.

In tombs from Han Dynasty records listing spices and foods such as malt sugar, vinegars, pickles, fermented sauces and honey. There were bones from many different species, indicating a variety in the diet and records of 10 different methods of cooking. There is no doubt

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that this trove of information recorded the culinary habits of the wealthy, but it also indicates the interest and care the Chinese have always taken in food prepa-

Dunlop notes that the biggest change in the Hunan diet was the introduction of the chili as the favorite spice. Most of the recipes use chili in some form but, for those who are less likely to want the force of the chili's heat, it is advised to reduce the amounts.

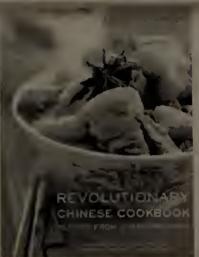
This is not a book for the basic beginner who has never tried a Chinese recipe. It is for those who have mastered the routine of Chinese preparation, chopping and finally cooking.

What makes this book a treasure — even beyond the recipes - is the voluminous descripof the foods and the history of their uses.

(gua ling fen) starts: "The Chinese make many interesting jellies, pastas and "Curds" from starchy vegetables. There are sweet potato noodles (hong shu fen), transparent with a bouncy mouth feel; mung bean vermicel-li (fen si); custard-like "bean curd" made from rice (mi dou fu) and a wonderful mung bean

The author tells you how to make the jelly in this introductory paragraph, but that has no

relationship to the actual recipe.
The book is filled with information that makes it a pleasure to read even if you never intend to cook anything at all. However, I have been looking for fish recipes beyond the standard Cantonese steamed fish. Dunlop explains that Hunan is a province threaded with rivers so



that fish has always been an important part of the diet. To make sure that the cook has a selection, she has included 12 entries. Each is different and there are also variations of each, which multiplies the number of

Another different and interesting addition to this book is the Glossary of Chinese Characters. Most books add the Chinese characters alongside each recipe, but this is the only one that goes through the characters for the ingredients in a logical manner - giving the pronunciation and the description. Sometimes there is the added bonus that makes the book worth reading - for example: "kai hua burst into flower, used to describe what happens to grains when they burst after long cooking.

To help out with reading the sections where the author delves into Chinese history, there is helpful information about the Main Chinese Dynasties.

Overall, the "Revolutionary Chinese Cookbook" is a good addition to my cookbook shelf.

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ARTS & CULTURE CALENDAR

SAMPAN AUGUST 17, 2007 P. 8

Festivals

Lowell, Mass.

11th SOUTHEAST ASIAN WATER FESTIVAL

Sat., Aug. 18 info & video: LowellWaterFestival.org This annual festival is dedicated to the preservation and sharing of the cultural heritages of Southeast Asians, including Cambodians, Vietnamese, Thai, Laotians, and many more. More than 60,000 people will come to the festival to celebrate water as it is celebrated in Southeast Asia, and to receive and enjoy blessings, food, crafts, performances and (of course) the races.

8th RHODE ISLAND **DRAGON BOAT RACE**

TAIWAN DAY FESTIVAL Féstival Pier (aka School Street Pier)

Seekonk River, Pawtucket,

Sat., Sep. 8 DragonBoatRI.com sponsors: City of Pawtucket RI; Taipei Economic and Cultural Office, Boston; RI Chinese Community; Blackstone Valley Tourism Council Starting at 7 a.m. until completion of the awards ceremony, shuttle buses will run from the Blackstone Visitor Center at 175 Main Street to the top of Tim Healey Way.

Celebrations INDIA DAY FESTIVAL Sun., Aug. 19, noon - 6

AT: Italian-American

Cultural Ctr., Worcester,

iswonline.org India Society of Worcester Free admission, free medical screening, Indian dances and music, food for purchase.

Dance

NATYANJALI

by students of Smt. Sunanda Narayanan of the Thillai Fine Arts Academy Sun., Sep. 2, 3 - 5 p.m. AT: Chinmaya Center, Andover, Mass. \$10 suggested donation chinmayamaruti.org

Film

Brattle Theatre Harvard Square, Cambridge brattlefilm.org Contact theatre for language or subtitles of films. TRIAD ELECTION (2006)

by: Johnnie To starring: Simon Yam, Louis Koo, Nick Cheung Aug. 24: 3:30, 7:30 Aug. 25, 26 and 27: 3:30,

To's epic pair of HK gangster films is said to resemble Coppola's "Godfather" trilogy. But the "family" in "Triad" is bound by bonds of friendship and loyalty; shady real-estate dealings in mainland China come into question.

ELECTION (2005) Aug. 24: 5:30, 9:30

Aug. 25 and 26: 1:30, Aug. 27: 5:30, 9:30 Part of an epic pair of HK gangster films, with "Triad Election" (see above), directed by Johnnie To.

Family MANDALAS

Sun., Aug. 19, 3 - 4 p.m. AT: Peabody Essex Museum Salem, Mass. Cost: museum admission Reserve by Aug. 15: (978) 745-9500 ext. 3011 pem.org/events For supervised kids ages 3-6. Mandalas are geometric arrangements that represent the universe; some designs are more than 5,000 years old. Learn about this traditional art

rate your own mandala. **Exhibitions**

form and motifs from

India-peacock feathers,

lotus flowers and geometric

mazes. Choose and deco-

ARTHUR M. SACKLER MUSEUM Cambridge, Mass. (617) 495-9400 artmuseums.harvard.edu/ex hibitions/sackler/pavilions.h To Sep. 23:

"PAVILIONS of LOVE: A RITUAL SPACE in INDI-AN PAINTING"

Exhibit of the iconography of the pavilion as a setting for earthly and spiritual love in 17th- and 18th-century Rajput paintings. To Feb. 10:

"OVERLAPPING **REALMS: ARTS of the** ISLAMIC WORLD and INDIA, 900-1900'

A sampling of visual arts produced by the varied peoples of the region from southern Europe to South

DEPOT SQUARE GALLERY

Lexington, Mass. (781) 863-1597 depotsquaregallery.com Aug. 18 - Sep.3:

"SANKAR IMPRESSIONS / Artist RANI SARIN' Sanskar, a Sanskrit word, has many meanings, including impressions and imprints. This show — of monotypes, mixed media and collages --- explores impressions made on our lives, their registration on the brain, and marks etched on metal or made on plexi-glass and impressed or printed paper. Rani herself is a printmaker and paper maker.

ISABELLA STEWART GARD-NER MUSEUM Boston (617) 566-1401 gardnermuseum.org

To Oct. 14: "STEFANO ARIENTI: The ASIAN SHORE

Installation work that brings together new drawings, photocopies, a range of rugs by the artist, and a rarely-viewed set of 17thcentury Japanese sliding doors (fusuma). Objects are positioned in a way that involves the viewer intimately with art.

MUSEUM of FINE ARTS **Boston** (617) 267-9300 mfa.org/exhibitions To Oct. 8:

"WOMEN of RENOWN: **FEMALE HEROES** and **VILLAINS** in the **PRINTS** of UTAGAWA KUNIYOSHI (1797-

mfa.org/exhibitions/sub.asp ?key=15&subkey=3598

Utagawa Kuniyoshi uniquely combined the popular theme of beautiful women with warrior prints showing legendary heroic figures from Japanese and Chinese history. His portrayals show women who were not just beauties but courageous, talented, and sometimes even wicked.

PEABODY MUSEUM of ARCHAEOLOGY and ETH-NOLOGY Cambridge, Mass. (617) 496-1027 peabody.harvard.edu To Sep. 9:

"VANISHED KING-DOMS: The WULSIN **PHOTOGRAPHS** of TIBET, CHINA, and MONGOLIA, 1921-1925"

31 images of rare-colored lantern slides of the Ta'er, Labuleng and Zhuoni lamaseries, religious ceremonies, and landscapes, taken during a 1923 expedition for National Geographic Society by Janet and Frederick Wulsin, Jr. Janet was one of the first U.S. female explorers in Inner Mongolia and Tibet.

U.S.A. CHICAGO

Art Institute of Chicago To Oct. 1: "JAPONISME: The IMPACT of JAPANESE PRINTS in 19th-CENTURY EUROPE" artic.edu/aic/exhibitions/ex hibition/japonisme To April 8, 2008: "FOREIGN FACES in JAPANESE PRINTS" artic.edu/aic/exhibitions/ex hibition/foreign

NORTH SALEM, NY

Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden To Sep. 8: "INCARNATION: KOREAN CONTEMPORARY ART **EXHIBITION**" hammondmuseum.org

SAN FRANCISCO

Asian Art Museum To Sep. 2: "YOSHITOSHI'S STRANGE TALES: WOODBLOCK PRINTS From EDO to

asianart.org/yoshitoshi.htm To Sep. 9: 'TEZUKA: the MARVEL of MANGA"

asianart.org/tezuka.htm

WASHINGTON, DC

Freer Gallery Ongoing: "ARTS of the INDIAN SUB-CONTINENT and the **HIMALAYAS** asia.si.edu/exhibitions/current/indianSubcontinent.ht

World

rietberg.ch

ZURICH: Museum Rietberg To Sep. 2: "MUSIC FESTIVAL: The SILK ROAD PROJECT [founded by Yo-Yo Ma]" To Dec. 2: "CAMBODIA'S DIVINE HERITAGE'

By M. Thang, creator and editor of the Arts & Culture Calendar.







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運動 語健康 大家齊等與

冬天過去了,新英格蘭的"冬眠" 也已經結束,人們開始進行散步,慢跑,騎自行車,打网球等户外運動。如果你自己没有參与,你仍然可以在回家的路上或吃午餐的時候看到人們鍛煉身体。

我們都知道鍛煉是重要的,而且鍛煉對我們的身体健康是多么的有益。這些鍛煉的好處是數不盡的,下面就是一些例子:

耐力訓練可以加强我 們的肺,心臟和循環的系 統功能, 防止中風的出 現。加强鍛煉可以提高 我們肌肉强度,以完成一 些需要体力的工作。我們 也可以通過体育鍛煉來增 **强新陳代謝**,這樣一來就 可以防止体重上升。其他 比較不激烈的運動,如鍛 煉平衡力的和机動性的運 動,對保持和增强体能的 穩定性起著有效的作用。 不但如此,增强身体的靈 活性也非常重要,尤其對 老年人來說, 可以防止身

体机能的衰退。

讓鍛煉進入你的生活 不一定會改變你的生活方 式。比如,如果你是一個 鍛煉比較少甚至是從不鍛 煉的人,要求你堅持每天 跑步,這可能是不切實際 的。因此你需要尋找一种 适合的方法和安排時間從 而讓運動慢慢的融入你的 生活。然后, 當你适應 了,你就可以逐漸地增加 你的運動時間和運動量卻 不會感到吃力。适當的運 動可以使你身体强壯,神 采飛揚而且充滿樂趣。然 而,怎樣控制運動量是非 常重要的,如果你一開始 運動過量, 它反而會成爲 你的負擔, 使你不能堅持 下去。

现在,你知道要慢慢的開始,但是要用什么方法開始運動呢?那就隨便你自己選擇。但是你要知道在日常生活中運動是無處不在的,所以要開始你積极的生活方式,并不意味著你要加入任何收費的運動中心或購買一些昂貴

的運動設備。

想一些你确實喜歡的 活動,嘗試著連接這些運 動到你的日常生活里。也 許你對純粹的散步,慢跑 没有興趣,但是如果加入 一些你确實喜歡的東西, 效果可以截然不同。例 如,找一些朋友邊聊天邊 物步,或听著音樂慢跑。 而且和朋友一起運動會使 你更加積极。

當然,每天出去慢跑 或散步20 到30 分鐘是一 個很好的開始, 但是如果 你喜歡的話你也可以從更 小地方的開始。例如,你 也可以從增加你平時的散 步路程做起。不要爲了節 省時間而想盡辦法走最少 的路,反而要加多你目前 每天正常要走的路程。比 如要做一些差事,故意的 把車停在离目的地比較遠 的地方,或者提前一個地 鐵站下車。又例如你可以 選擇樓梯來代替電梯,一 天一兩次就好了。還有你 可以在午餐的時候,尋找 一些要走一段路才到的地

方吃飯來代替在辦公桌上 吃或者開車去買午餐。這 些都是很容易改變的習 慣。

有時外面下雨和天气 寒冷,導致我們不能進行 室外運動,而且你又没有 加入任何運動中心,這時 在家里做一些簡單的鍛煉 也是很重要的。只要買一 個小小的墊子,你在家里 就可以用它來做一些伸 展,俯卧撐,仰卧起坐。 你也可以買一個啞鈴來做 一些輕微的抵抗運動,又 或者用彈力球來做一些平 衡和有活動性的鍛煉。如 果你喜歡跳舞的話,就打 開你喜歡的音樂然后跳舞 (不需要設備)。

也許你覺得慢跑和散 步你都不能堅持下去,或 許你會對普拉提(一种類 似瑜珈的有氧運動)或跆

所以記住,以小的改變開始和選擇一些你喜歡 運動做起。要堅持所規划 的時間表,不要因爲錯失 了一天而放棄整個計划。

(Joshua Arkin)



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節日

第十一屆東南亞潑水節 麻省Lowell 市 八月十八日,周六 詳 情 查 詢 LowellWaterFestival.org 一年一度的潑水節是東南 亞傳統習俗。慶祝該節的 國家包括:柬埔寨、越 南、泰國、老撾及其它一 些地區。此次潑水節慶祝 預計將有60,000余人參 加。屆時會有祈福、文藝 表演和各种比賽項目等。 食品、工藝品有售。

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詳 情 查 chinmayamaruti.org

Brattle 影院 Harvard Square, Cambridge 詳情查詢:brattlefilm. 慶儀式" 查詢電影語言請予影院 聯系 **TRIAD** (2006)

導演: Johnnie To 主演: Simon Yam, Louis Koo, Nick Cheung 八月二十四日: 3:30, 7:30 8月 25, 26 and 27: 3:30, 7:30

"香港幫"電影之一。該 電影被稱作是"教父"香 港版。只是除家庭外,加 入友誼与忠誠線索。故事 背景是中國大陸混雜的房 地産行業。

ELECTION (2005) 8月 24: 5:30, 9:30 8月25 and 26: 1:30, 5:30, 9:30

8月27: 5:30, 9:30 Part of an epic pair of HK gangster films, with "Triad Election" (see above), directed by Johnnie To.

"香港幫"電影之一,導 演同上

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展覽

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MUSEUM Cambridge, Mass. (617) 495-9400

www.artmuseums. 婦女的驕傲:Utagawa筆 harvard.edu/ pavilions.html 截至九月二十三日

"PAVILIONS of LOVE: KUNIYOSHI (1797-A RITUAL SPACE in 1861)) INDIAN PAINTING"

ELECTION 舉辦婚禮的地方。

截至2008年二月十日

DEPOT GALLERY Lexington, Mass. (781) 863-1597 depotsquaregallery.com REALMS: ARTS of the M.F. Husain, Bhupen INDIA,

"斛影交錯:900-1900伊斯蘭及印度藝術 Bose Krishnamachari制 南歐及南亞藝術家的視覺 盒短片

900-1900"

藝術展 "SANKAR 印象/藝術家 RANI SARIN"

斯里蘭卡語言里, Sanskar有多种含義,包 括"印象"和"打印"。 本展覽融合多种媒体元素 explore.php?setID=5376 探索生活中印象的産生, 印象在大腦中的附著。本 "ARTscape")

8月18 日-9月3日

打印藝術。

ISABELLA STEWART **GARDNER MUSEUM** Boston

(617) 566-1401 www.GardnerMuseum.

"STEFANO ARIENTI: 失衡的美妙:中國藝 The ASIAN SHORE"

海岸" 由繪畫、攝影、織毯及十 AESTHETICS) 的展覽。展品擺放方式 時代到2004年的30件展 爲"觀眾親近型"。

截至十月十四日

MUSEUM of FINE **ARTS Boston** (617) 267-9300 mfa.org/exhibitions

截至十月八日

exhibitions/sackler/ 女1797-1861 (WOMEN of RENOWN: FEMALE HEROES and VILLAINS in the PRINTS of **UTAGAWA** http://mfa.org/ "玫瑰亭:印度畫中的婚 exhibitions/sub. asp?key=15&subkey=3598 展覽關于17-18世紀印度 該畫加以獨有的結合流行 畫中符號化了的亭子。亭 題材与歷史人物創作特點 子是那時愛情的象征,是 描繪日本及中國歷史上的 婦女形象。畫中婦女才貌

雙全、聰慧勇敢。

截至十二月七日

下的女英雄及普通農村婦

SQUARE 孟買之門(GATEWAY BOMBAY) http://pem.org/ exhibitions/exhibition. php?id=66 "OVERLAPPING 作品來自: Atul Dodiya, ISLAMIC WORLD and Khakhar, Nalini Malani, Gieve Patel,以及 Sudhir Patwardhan. 另外,展品 還有Herwitz 的收藏及 作的關于孟買傳統精美飯

> 讓我們Origami吧! (ORIGAMI NOW!) 圖片上网可查: www. pem.org/artscape/ (點擊

展覽也展示了玻璃/紙章 世界風行的Origami起源 于亞洲。展覽展示了這門 藝術的精髓,内容包括自 畫像及抽象藝術。展覽同 時也表現了這門藝術与其 它領域的聯系,如設計、 醫藥及數學。觀眾可參与 互動。

截至2008年六月八日

術探美 (PERFECT "Stefano Arienti: 亞洲 IMBALANCE, **EXPLORING CHINESE** 七世紀日本滑門組合成 充滿中國气息的從新石器 品,包括繪畫、玉器、織 品、瓷器。展品試圖展示 真正中國藝術之概念,有 别于周邊國家民族藝術及 中國制作的出口用藝術 o nn

截至2009年五月十七日

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截至九月九日

消逝的王國 西藏、中 國、蒙古圖片展1921-1925 (VANISHED **KINGDOMS:** The WULSIN PHOTOGRAPHS of TIBET, CHINA, and MONGOLIA, 1921-1925) 31張幻燈圖片,内容包 括喇嘛寺院、宗教儀式 及風光。圖片由國家地 里社的Janet及 Frederick Wulsin攝于1923年。 Janet是第一位探索蒙 古、西藏地區的西方女 性。

KOREAN CONTEMPORARY ART EXHIBITION" www. hammondmuseum.org SAN FRANCISCO Asian Art Museum 截至九月八日

> YOSHITOSHI 不 可思議的尾巴:木雕 展 "YOSHITOSHI'S **STRANGE TALES:** WOODBLOCK PRINTS From EDO to MEIJI"

www.asianart.org/ yoshitoshi.htm

截至九月二日

"TEZUKA: the MARVEL of MANGA" www.asianart.org/ tezuka.htm

截至九月九日

外州展覽

CHICAGO

Art Institute of Chicago 日風:19世紀日本繪 畫對歐洲的影響(JAPONISME: The **IMPACT of JAPANESE** PRINTS in 19th-CENTURY EUROPE) www.artic.edu/aic/ exhibitions/exhibition/ japonisme

截至十月一日

日本繪畫中的外國臉龐 (FOREIGN FACES in JAPANESE PRINTS) www.artic.edu/aic/ exhibitions/exhibition/ foreign NORTH SALEM, NY Hammond Museum & Japanese Stroll Garden

截至2008年 八月八日

數標:韓國現代藝術 展 "INCARNATION:

世界范圍 **ZURICH**: Museum Rietberg 8月19日-9月2日: 馬友友:絲綢之路 "MUSIC FESTIVAL: The SILK ROAD PROJECT [founded by Yo-Yo Ma]"

柬埔寨跳水傳 統 "CAMBODIA'S **DIVINE HERITAGE"**

截至十二月二日

Thang 編輯整理 許可可翻譯

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上接第五版

楊信宜:當我最初開始出 來教琴的時候,我接觸的 學生都是比我年長的,大 概都是四五十歲,或者是 退休的人。當時我覺得很 好奇,彈其他的樂器,彈 **筝什麼的,都是很小的孩** 子或是比較年輕的人來 學,但古琴卻不是,所 以占琴吸引人可能不是 華麗,或者是優美,不是 這個面上的東西,因爲我 想年紀長的人可能對這個 不是太感興趣,他們迫求 的是心境上或哲理上的學 問。。。我第一次聽到古 琴的聲音,覺得它的聲音 特別的沉穩又低吟。這是 一般在你聽的民間音樂中

所没有的。可是古琴的藝 術是很内向的内斂的。我 們現在聽的東西好像還滿 嘈雜的, 古琴在這個現實 的社會裏面是一個與其他 聲音背道而馳的音樂。就 像現在很多人喜歡打坐、 冥想、 練瑜伽, 爲什 麼? 你就是想要得到身 心的放鬆與平靜, 你就是 想要在這個很喧鬧的世界 裏面、很快速節奏的社會 裹面、找到一個自我的空 間。所以我覺得呢,彈琴 給我自己的感覺,可以讓 我有一個平靜的空間。與 琴對話,就像是和一個老 朋友聊天一樣,也可以透 過琴來表達内心的思維感 受,很多學琴的朋友或學

生都這麼告訴我, 古琴就 像他們的老朋友一樣。

溫侯廷:所以,從這種意 義上講,彈琴就像自己跟 自己在對話, 而不是跟 别人對話。

楊信宜:是,是, 古琴 好像是你的一個朋友,你 可以與琴對話, 也可以诱 過琴來訴說自己的情感, 自己與自己對話。其實音 樂本來就是有這樣的功 能,可是古琴在這一方面 好像可以更贴切地表現自 我,我覺得彈琴跟人的個 性相互的影響比別的樂器 要强烈一些。

温侯廷:那,我想問妳 一下,作爲一個喜歡彈 古琴的人,妳一定是一 種。。。怎麼說呢?一種 稀有動物吧

楊信宜: 倒没有那麼稀 有, 因爲古琴音樂藝術 在2003年被聯合國教科 文組織〔UNESCO〕列 爲非物質文化遺 [Masterpieces Oral Intangible Heritage of Humanity〕的名錄中, 因爲這層關係,加上中 國現在有一股復興漢學的 風氣,使得古琴在中國掀

起了一個熱潮。但是真正 像不像占筝、琵琶、二胡 這麼普及,倒也没有,但 是比起以前,真正知道琴 的人應該要多一些了。所 以,古琴已經没有像以前 那麼困難聽到的,或者是 看到,在很多電影裏面, 像譚盾的作曲裏面,都有 古琴音樂或是以大提琴模 仿古琴音樂的配樂,像是 英雄啊,卧虎藏龍等,所 以我們現在不難聽到古琴 的聲音。

溫侯廷:美國有一句俗話 説:音樂是人類的共同語 言。我不知道妳對這個看 法有什麼評價。

楊信宜:你覺得呢?

温侯廷:我認爲倒不如 此。我記得有一次,我 有一位中文老師給我聽聽 一段京劇。他告訴我,這 是一首特别悲傷的歌。但 是它一開收音機我就想, 嘿, 這首曲子怎麼這麼 高興啊?所以我一想,聽 這首曲子就像聽外國話一 樣聽不懂,那音樂怎麼可 能是人類的共同語言?

楊信宜:我知道你的意 思。我曾經看過一位臺 灣作曲老師黃瑩先生寫 的一篇文章,我没看到整

篇文章,只看到標題没有 内文,因爲是在網路上看 到的。但這個標題可能可 以讓我們有一點啓發。他 説:『音樂先有國籍然後 才言不分國界。』各地的 音樂還是有國籍, 還是 有文化背景的。京劇演 唱的形式, 與歌劇的表 現方式也許不同,在最傷 心的時候,我們也可能會 大叫,唱出很高的聲音, 讓你分不出表演者是何種 情緒,因爲我們並不瞭解 京劇表演的形式與語言。 一般來說,可以用上"音 樂是人類共同語言"這句 話的地方,是流行或通俗 音樂,因爲這種音樂的表 達是很直接,並没有太大 的藝術修飾,所以很容易 讓人理解。我覺得音樂真 的需要先有國籍,就像我 們現在看到很多的新嘗 試,很多流行音樂團喜

歡做"fusion",比方說

將鍵盤、double bass、

電吉他再 加一個印度鼓

來演奏,如果表演者完

全不瞭解樂器本身的技

巧與傳統形式, 你只是想

要彈一個聲音,它就只是

一個聲響的工具,没有生

命,放在一起就有一點像

沙拉、你可以往裏面隨便

放束西, 可是不一定好

吃!你就覺得它只是一堆 不同聲響,没有共鳴。所 以其實各種音樂都有自己 的語彙, 就是說,那個 語彙並不一定是我們所熟 悉的,我們只是直覺地去 覺得它好聽還是不好聽, 可是你要聽懂它,可能還 真的需要有一點學習與認 知。 比方説, 有時候我 彈古琴給中國人聽,你會 以爲他是中國人,應該就 會聽得懂,但其實他也是 聽得滿頭問號,不知道你 在彈什麼。

溫侯廷:請問楊老師在波 士頓地區如何推廣中國音 樂的活動

楊信宜:除了接受外界的 邀約演奏之外,就我自己 而言,在古琴方面,我們 基本上不定期的舉行公 開雅集,名爲『坐忘雅 聚』,除了琴友彈琴交 流外, 也選出與中國文 化内容相關的講題,邀請 學者來爲我們演講。在古 **筝方面**,有波士頓古筝樂 團的專場音樂會外,還有 每年兩次的學生學習成果 發表會。如果愛樂的朋友 有興趣知道更多關於我的 活動訊息,可以到www shinyiyang.com參觀。

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波士頓醫療中心的門診夥伴

楊信宜是波士頓的一 位著名古琴古筝演奏家、 波士頓占箏樂團的創辦 人,並獲選爲麻州文化 協會傳統藝術傳承計畫的 藝師。她曾在新英格蘭的 許多場合演奏過,及爲多 所知名大學與音樂學院邀 請,諸如哈佛大學,耶魯 大學,波士頓大學, 新 英格蘭音樂學院等學校舉 行中國古筝、古琴演奏會 與講座。她是一位傳統與 現代兼備的演奏家,亦是 一位認真教學者,在大波 士頓中華文化協會、華心 藝術學校教授古箏,並私 人教授古箏與古琴。

本報記者溫侯廷最近 兩個月在楊信宜的指導下 學習古琴。上個禮拜二她 受本報採訪,講述了古琴 這個十分神妙、具有三千 年悠久歷史以及豐富文化 内涵的藝術形式。

溫侯廷:請妳先給我講一 下,妳是怎麼對中國古典 音樂產生興趣的。

楊信宜:很多小孩子的音 樂啓蒙都是從鋼琴開始 的,我也不例外,在進 音樂學院之前,我也彈了 六七年的鋼琴。我對中國 音樂産生興趣,基本是看 武俠小説、看電視劇、或 者是古裝電視劇裏面一些 彈琴彈箏的片斷。當時, 我是對古箏比較有接觸, 因爲常常在電視劇裏面可 以看到古筝這個樂器。然 後,透過一次去看一個音 響樂器展覽,當然那裡大 部分的都是展覽西洋的樂 器,像是小提琴,鋼琴, 電子琴這些東西,可是裏 面有一個攤位是展覽中國 樂器的。我看到古筝在裏 面就特别的顯眼、特别的 漂亮。因爲學過鋼琴的關 係,所以我對樂器音階有 些認識,就信手去撥弄, 覺得古箏的音色很優美, 然後就決定買一個古筝回 家學習,彈彈看,所以就 這樣開始學習古箏。

溫侯廷:然後,怎麼開始 對古琴感興趣呢?

楊信宜:拜師學箏之後,

我的老師覺得我在音樂方 面好像還挺有天份的,可 以去報考音樂學校。以前 也不曉得中國音樂也可以 是一項主修,因爲大家都 是讀書考試上大學,讀一 般的課系,我從來没想過 可以去念音樂這個科目。 我的老師很鼓勵我,說: 『既然妳這麼喜歡音樂, 那妳何不試試看去念中國 音樂學系呢?』因爲這個 動力,所以我就以古筝爲

主修樂器,報考了國立臺 灣藝術專科學校,也就是 現在的國立台灣藝術大 學,也很幸運的考上了。 之後,因爲我的班導師王 海燕教授是一位非常著名 的古琴演奏家,她介紹了 我古琴這個樂器。在我還 没有進音樂學院之前,我 對古琴的瞭解是從金庸的 笑傲江湖這個著名武俠小

女性的,古琴是屬於男性 的,在我的感覺裡,樂器 並没有性别之分,但是在 教學或演奏的經驗中,古 琴的確比較能吸引男性愛 樂者的目光。

溫侯廷:所以,妳說古琴 是你最愛的一個樂器嗎?

楊信宜:對我來說古筝、 古琴兩者都是我的最愛, 的内容可以追求,因爲它 可以跟很多的文化的東西 結合。當然其他樂器也是 和文化相關,可是没有像 古琴那麼深, 因爲古琴 跟文人的關係很密切,所 以你可以通過古琴看到中 國文化的内涵和精神。

溫侯廷:那,就給我們講 一講古琴和傳統中國文化

祀音樂,宮廷音樂,民間 音樂,還有文人音樂。古 琴呢,可以是祭祀音樂, 也可以在宫廷裏面演奏, 也可以存到民間,可是它 最主要是屬於"文人音 樂"這個類别裡。那爲 什麼它會擺在文人音樂 這個部分呢?因爲琴棋 書畫這四藝是文人修身養 性用的,所以,琴是在這 用很多的詩詞或者是書畫 來闡述古琴的美,文人也 留下很多琴譜與美學的文 字記錄。我們在中國繪畫 裡常可以看到文人帶著小 琴童悠遊與自然山水之 間,所以,古琴是文人生 活的一部份,不僅止於音 樂藝術而已,它不是特定 的一種你去學習的樂器, 而是在生活上面的一個重 要的糧食吧。所以我就覺 得,它跟中國文化思想是 密不可分的。

溫侯廷:我們聽説知音的 故事與古琴有關,可不可 以給我們講一講。

楊信宜:這個故事是記載 於列子這部古籍中的,其 一段原文是這樣的:

伯牙善鼓琴,鍾子期善 聽。伯牙鼓琴,志在高 山,鍾子期曰:"善哉, 峨峨兮若泰山!"志在流 水,鍾子期曰:"善哉, 洋洋若江河!"伯牙所 念,鍾子期必得之。

故事是説,俞伯牙和鍾子 期在山林間相遇,子期可 以從伯牙的琴音中聽出琴 曲的内容與所要表達的心 意,因而成爲知音知己。 次年他們相約再見面,但 是子期卻去世了,伯牙感 到世上唯一瞭解他的知音 已逝,所以就將琴摔了, 從此不再彈琴。這個故事 説明了中國文人對知己的 重視,與得一知己死而無 憾的情懷!

溫侯廷:那麼,妳覺得妳 自己吃這種精神糧食讓妳 的得到了一些什麼好處 呢?從個人來說 · · ·

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統與現代

古琴古筝演奏家楊信宜專訪

説裏面知道的, 當時我 也没有真正聽過古琴的聲 音,只有在書本上、以及 在中國的繪畫裡面看到過 古琴。進了藝專之後,王 海燕教授讓我真正認識古 琴這個樂器, 她彈了一 曲長門怨給我聽,問我有 没有興趣跟她學琴?因爲 這個緣份,讓我在中國音 樂的領域裡開啓了另外一 扇窗,啊,古琴是這麼地 好聽,它不再只是書上面 寫的一件神妙樂器而已。 原來,在現代的社會上, 真的有人彈奏這個樂器, 不只是在武俠小説裏面很 遙遠的樣子。古琴這個樂 器很迷人的地方就是它的 造型線條很簡單,看起來 可以穿越古今,可以很現 代,也可以很古老,它的 音色非常低沉而有韻味, 雖和古箏同樣是中國傳統 的彈撥樂器, 但卻是完 全不同的個性。

溫侯廷: 你可以説説古筝 和古琴的不同之處嗎?

楊信宜:古筝的學習者比 古琴學習的人多,所以很 多人對於古箏的瞭解多於 古琴。但中國人稱讚一個 人很有文藝修養, 會說這 個人真是琴棋書畫樣樣精 通,其中的『琴』指的可 是古琴而非古筝,我想借 這個機會和大家説一説, 琴筝的不同之處。

就外型來看,古筝體 積大,有二十一條絃,古 琴體積較小只有七條絃; 古筝面板上有雁柱〔琴 橋〕,一絃一柱,古琴 則没有;就音量來看,古 筝音量大,可以獨奏或合 奏,音色清麗明亮,古琴 音量小,適合獨奏或是與 簫合奏,音色平淡質樸; 就音樂内容來看,古筝樂 曲屬於民間音樂爲多,古 琴樂曲則爲文人音樂。

有人覺得古箏是屬於



上圖爲縯奏家楊信宜教授本報記者溫侯廷古琴

我曾想專心彈琴而放棄 筝,但是藝專畢業後, 我繼續到香港演藝學院深 造,我的古箏老師 一 著 名筝樂家項斯華老師,讓 我在這兩樣不同性格的樂 器上找到平衡點。但是, 以我自己的性格來說,我 個人可能偏愛古琴的音樂 多一些,還有古琴有更多

的關係吧。

楊信宜:我們常常説,中 國文人的四個修習的要件 就是琴棋書畫。古琴在中 國文化的底蘊上來講,它 是非常深刻的,禮記中 説"士無故不撤琴瑟", 我們可以看到琴對文人的 重要性。中國音樂我們可 以把它分成四個類别:祭

個四樣裏面必修的一個功 課。它當然是一個音樂的 藝術,但是它也包含了修 身的功能,還有教化的功 能,文人用彈琴來改變心 性,來修養自己的德性, 因此琴跟中國文化的道德 有很密切的關係。它不是 用來娛樂的,而是用來修 潛養心的。還有,文人會

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亞裔及太平洋島民所獲社會經費嚴重不足

(本報訊)根據亞 裔/太平洋島民公益組 織 (Asian Americans/ Pacific Islanders Philanthropy, 簡稱 AAPIP) 新近發表的一個 名爲『發展機遇』的報 告,美國首屈一指的基 金會對亞裔及太平洋島 民(AAPI) 社區提供經費 的趨勢,尚未能趕上這些 社區的發展或這些基金會 的資產增值。報告中歷數 了排名美國首二十個全國 性基金會,在一九九零年 到二零零二年所提供的經 費,發現這些基金會對亞 裔及太平洋島民(AAPI) 社區提供的經費與其他 社區相比, 在某些領域 内有很大差距。該報告中 建議公益事業界應該行動 起來,盡力把這些差距縮

報告顯示,雖然亞裔 及太平洋島民現今已達 美國人口的百分之四點 五,二零零四年基金會 提供給亞裔及太平洋島 民(AAPI)的經費,只佔 整個美國基金會總額的百 分之零點四。不斷防礙亞 裔及太平洋島民(AAPI) 社區發展所面對重大的社會及經濟挑戰包括:高貧窮率、不斷增高的健康風險、跟仇恨有關的暴力上漲、和在眾多亞裔及太平洋島民(AAPI) 人口中學術成就巨大的差距;但似乎基金會提供的經費與上述挑戰並不相稱。

報告强調的另一個主 要差距,就是基金會對亞 裔及太平洋島民 (AAPI) 所領導機構的投資,特 别在國家面臨危機時, 似乎不能緊貼亞裔及太平 洋島民對可以信賴、文化 上勝任、能說他們語言、 對他們社區有專門知識的 服務提供者的需求。報告 揭示, 亞裔及太平洋島民 (AAPI) 所領導的機構, 比較其他服務亞裔及太平 洋島民 (AAPI) 社區的機 構從最大的基金會所獲得 的經費,如鳳毛麟角,顯 著爲少。

「此時此刻,就是重點投資在亞裔及太平洋島民(AAPI) 社區策略的時機。我們的社區必須參與塑造及影響一些對他們生活和整個社會造成影響的政策和條件。」

亞裔/太平洋島民公益組織 (AAPIP) 的董事長/行政董事Peggy Saika表示。「『發展機遇』邀請公益事業界,考慮支援亞裔及太平洋島民在二十

一世紀的成長所必需的投資。」

「『發展機遇』 强調,有組織的公益團 體在亞裔及太平洋島民 (AAPI) 社區的投資, 乏善足陳,而公益事業界 對所有非白人社區的支援 程度,則了無寸進,」 Saika 女士表示。「我們 期待,調查結果會挑戰 基金會開拓提供經費的策

略,以針對被邊緣化社區的特殊需要。」 欲知進一步有關『發展機 遇』詳情,請參看www. aapip.org。(楊陽)

歷時兩年24號地歸屬終將明確該地預計2009年破土動工

【本報記者史亞當報導楊陽編譯】早在五十多年前 上百個華埠居民被迫從位於Hudson街的24號地的歸屬,在其目前計畫在這 裏建造住宅樓的開發商與 州政府相關部門將近兩年的交涉後,終於有了説 法——根據開發商透露, 雙方有關該地的購買意向 已經初步確認。

與發展商新波士頓 發展夥伴 (New Boston Development Partners) 合作,在24號地建造具有 超過300套公寓住房的亞 美社區發展協會最近透 露,他們將與麻州公路局 於八月底前簽訂一個長達 九十九年的租用合約。

在24號地空出待建之 後的幾年中,包括亞美社 區發展協會在内的社區團 體一直在爭取以低價爭取 到這塊空地,他們認爲這 塊地在五十到六十年代因 爲高速公路的修建而從華 埠劃走,所以現在這塊地 (在賣回給華埠的時候) 只應該賣一美元。 麻州公路局的新聞發 言人確認了該地租用合約 以及發展計畫都已近完 成,但對於成交價格卻隻 字未提。

Oh Roof提到要完全 確認該地的歸屬也許並不 那麼簡單,因爲該地大約 有四分之一的面積是屬於 麻州高速公路局的。

在七月的華埠的 一個會議上Oh Roof表示: "(我們)還面臨著 許多麻煩的法律問題。"

除此之外,她還說一 旦與麻州公路局簽訂了合 約,還需要檢驗該地的土 質以後城市發展審查才能 開始。

她說: "一切還都剛

剛開始。"她預計在兩年 以後所有的手續才能最終 完成,而該地破土動工的 時間則需要等到2009年。

O'Roofe估計這項 工程將花費十億二千七百 萬美元,亞美社區發展協 會以及新波士頓發展夥伴 期望能從包括稅款信用在 内的公眾基金中獲得兩千 三百萬美元。

將在該地建設的混合 收入型大樓,最高處將有 二十層,將有七十套公寓 單元以及不超過九十九間 共同治理型公寓將根據城 市可負擔住房標準定價, 並包含不超過一百八十套 市場價格的公寓。

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作者:溫侯廷

七月一日,一些亞裔 人士聚集在麻州州政府 前,揮舞著海報高呼著口 號爲支持中英雙語競選投 票而進行了集會。

"這並不是個玩笑! 我們要投票!"這個三十 多人的集會在州政府前的 臺階上高呼著口號。

他們的不滿來源於一 場在雙語投票點對競選者 名字翻譯的爭論。根據州 務卿William Galvin的說 法,用中文字來音譯英文 名字,會在競選時產生歧 義並誤導選民。而根據一 些亞裔積極人士的説法, 在競選中使用雙語有助於 華裔參與投票以行使他們 的選舉權。

在集會第二天, Galvin向美國司法部提出 了對中英文雙語投票點 必須翻譯競選人名字做 法的反對意見,他認爲 對名字的翻譯是"絕對 不準確的"因此"有極大可能會誤導投票者,並有可能導致不公平的競選結果,與大眾利益相悖。" Galvin覺得保留競選者名字不翻譯,只翻譯其他資訊是個更好的選擇。

而認爲將名字也翻譯 成中文的人認爲,這對很 多華裔投票者來說是很有 儘管這個爭論已經成 爲了熱東投票權以及移民 歸化事宜的人士關心的焦 點,但是競選者名字的翻 譯有可能含有歧義一事 已經成爲了媒體的關注 的熱點。根據《今日美 國》最近的一篇文章中 指出,翻譯過後的名字 會有一些可笑的例如"英 難道在這裏的人會因爲在 投票點看到競選者名字的 翻譯就會認爲他們是投票 給'英勇的湯'嗎?麻州 的華裔可比這要聰明的 多。"

但是Galvin仍然認為 對名字的翻譯會影響投票者對競選人的印象。 "中文字都有它們自己的 例如共和黨競選人Fred Thompson普通話的翻譯 是福德·湯姆森,而字對 字的意思就是"福德湯(保)姆森(林)"。而對 同一個名字廣東話的翻譯 是法克·湯臣,其字對字 的意思是"(方)法克湯 (大)臣"。 Galvin便 因此認爲在這樣的翻譯 會立即判斷出來這些字是 代表一個外文名字,而不 含有它們原有的意思。這 也是因爲有一部分中文字 傳統上就多用於表示外文 人名和地名——並不是任 何有著相近發音的字都可 以用的。"

Lowe指出,大多數 競選人在華文媒體上都已 經有了標準的中文譯名, 可以用在雙語投票站。

至於譯名會引起不好的聯想的可能性,哈佛語言學教授C. T. James-Huang 寫道,這樣的問題根本就不用擔心,除非翻譯名字的人有意要與競選人作對。例如一個叫Suzuki的競選人的名字可以被惡意翻譯成"輸輸去"。"很明顯,(這樣的翻譯)是絕對不能讓人接受的。"Huang這樣寫道,"但當然也没有人建議這樣做。"

(編譯:楊陽)

迷失在翻譯之中?

必要的。在集會中發言的,今年七十九歲的華埠居民Xu Bozhao説,華埠大多數老年投票者根本不會讀英文。很多這類投票者只能嘗試著記住競選人名字的第一個字母以及地區來區分他們。 組織集會的華人前進會主任Lydia Lowe指出,在成爲公民的考試中,對年逾五十八歲的老年人,其英

勇的湯"以及"胃痛"等 意思。

亞裔活動積極分子以 及其支持者對這種說法表 示了極大不滿。他們認爲 這種說法不僅不準確而且 是對亞裔投票權的輕視。

在州政府前的集會 上,亞裔市議員尹常賢 發言說: "全世界成千 上百萬的人都使用這種翻 譯系統,這麼多人都不會 因此而對名字産生歧義, 意思,(在翻譯名字的過程中)對不同字的選擇有可能對競選者產生積極或者消極的影響。"七月十日他在提出反對意見時寫道,"說普通話、廣東話或者台語的不同的翻譯者對競選者的名字翻譯也不同。"

Galvin的提議中提到 了兩個中文翻譯給他提 供的對同一名字的普通 話和廣東話的不同翻譯。 中會有"潛在的不公平因素"。

但是Galvin的這個説 法到底能否站得住腳呢?

威廉學院亞洲研究的中文專家Cornelius Kubler教授稱這個説法 是 "州務卿的可以理解 的一個誤解。"

Kubler 教授在寫給 《舢舨》的一封電子郵件 中解釋説: "當華裔讀到 翻譯成中文的名字時,都

上接第二版

梁 的 競 選 對 手 McNamee的殺手鐧是提 醒大眾他在任職一年半里 的工作成就,鼓舞大眾投 票使其連任。

"不能半途而廢"一語雙關,既是 McNamee的競選口號, 也是他對"爲什么想連 任"問題的擋箭牌。

McNamee説很多人都以爲這個職位挺耀眼,實際上這不是什么花瓶職位,而是一個實實在在的工作。有許多事情要料理:修整街道馬路,樹木裁剪,貫徹停車法規,洪災應急,産除積雪,還有要与居民協心同力制定發展計划。

二十七歲的 McNamee也是昆士市居 民。他介紹説自己很早就 是一位社會活動家。早在 十年前就開始競選市委, 當時參与競選的驅動力是 對昆士市管理商業區的方 式不滿。

文的要求也大大減低。

當時的昆士并没有給 商業區提供足夠的后援服 務,導致商業區開始衰 敗。

"當時的市里没有貫 徹執行有關土地標屬和物 主管理維護房産的法律法 規。我有幸參与改革,改 革目的在于吸引更多更好 的商業入駐,只有這樣才 會有個蓬勃向上的社區生 活。否則試想,市里的商 業區漸衰,社區生活怎能 安穩"。

McNamee的言辭打動了梁前兩次競選的支持者Lola Tom。Tom早前在唐人街一帶很是活躍。 現在她可是McNamee的支持者。 Tom說現在的市委 很支持昆士的亞裔團体, 她本人就是一個非營利的 針對亞裔的教育与社會服 務組織的董事會成員。 Tom說McNamee對亞裔 很支持并且本人也對亞洲 文化持開放心態。

但是梁的支持者,例如他的堂兄Tony,認爲 支持北昆士亞裔選民,選 擇一位華裔理事,工作起 來將會更加有效率。

"昆士亞裔社區日益 壯大,他們确實需要一個 聲音"。

不過Tom反擊說不 應强調种族。Tom其實 還是另一位亞裔候選人 的支持者。該候選人, Vistor Ng, 正在競選市委 委員一職。

Tom提示, "亞裔 候選人應當投票給他們認 爲能夠代表他們利益的候

選人,而不是憑种族文化 背景投票給本族人"。

梁個人訪談錄

競選戰略

与前兩次競選相比, 梁表示爲此次競選,他正 在尋求更多的支持者。在 過去的一個月里,他已囊 獲60位志愿者。

"在我頭兩次競選中,我宣講的不夠多, 以至没能找到足夠多的志 愿者。那時我頂多也就是 20-30個志愿者。"

政治生活与商業生活

"過去十年里,我的 大部分時間都奉獻給了公 司和家人。公司和家人是 我最牽挂的兩件事。還有 一件讓我牽挂的事情是做 一名廚師。不過我已經作 了十年廚師了。現在我還 不到三十歲,是從政的大 好時机。"

昆士四人幫

"昆士四人幫"是昆士當地的一個由四個亞裔組成的小團伙,其中三人有不良記錄,曾遭多次逮捕。該四人幫聲稱自己無辜,全怪警察發神經病,三番五次縣扰拘捕他們。

梁 説他 曾是 "四人 幫"中Keren Chen "親 密好友", "有這樣的事 情發生實在不幸"。

但是無人目擊該團伙 作案,對該團伙的指控也 可以認爲是警局方面的一 面之辭。

梁表示事事都有兩面性,對該團伙的判罰有些 草率。對其中兩名四人幫 成員的判罰包括六個月監禁,十天監外勞動,緩刑

判罰則是緩刑18個月執行。 "我覺得判罰不公。

兩年執行。對于Chen的

我觉得刑割不公。 事情并不大,這些孩子卻 要背負不良記錄一生"。

市長Phelan

由于省里削減撥款的 緣故,麻省很多市、鎮都 削減了藝術和体育課的經 費。但是昆士市并没有這 樣做。我覺得市長平衡收 支做得不錯。我們的賦稅 也没有增加。

"我的父母很高興他們的賦稅没有增加,我的 侄子外甥們很高興他們的 藝術和体育課没有削減。 我的家里人很高興,我没 有什么不高興的。"

(翻譯: 許可可)

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東山三起,志在川得?

Jimmy Liang 競選昆士市理事 現任理事McNamee爲連任同樣看重亞裔支持

撰文: 史亞當

麻省昆士市亞裔人口 眾多,該市市委共設有六 個理事職位。梁是第一位 競選麻省昆士市理事的亞 裔美國人。該競選將于今 年十一月份産生結果。

年僅二十九歲的梁雄 心壯志。2001年時他競選 市委委員未果,2003年二 度出山再次落馬。

此次競選,梁東 山三起,与現任Brian McNamee角逐理事職 位。Brian早在1997年就 開始競選該職,直至最后 一刻決胜任職。

身爲商人的梁擁有建 筑公司一家及餐廳若干 家。談及自己競選資格的 由來,梁聲稱實在意外。

"想想也没什么, 可事情就是這樣。有一 天票務室的一位工作人 員打來電話說'恭喜恭 喜……'我如墜云霧,不 知所以"

稍后他的堂兄 Tony(現爲梁先生的 財務主管) 又打來電話 説"需要談談"。

"再后來,我的一幫 兄弟和支持者聚到一起极 力鼓動我參加競選"。

爲全心投入競選,梁 已經把公司的事情能推掉

梁的太祖父以鐵路工 人的身份來美,梁的祖父 則是美國出生。梁本人出 生在中國,四歲時移民美



的都推掉了,自己只保留 審批新項目的權力。

"我家族的歷史可以 反映出美國的歷史",梁

介紹説自己是個跨文化産 物:華裔美國人,在昆士 市長大,并且在昆士市的 公立學校上學讀書。

梁曾就讀于昆士學院 及麻省大學,1988年二十 歲時,未經畢業就与同伴 開始經營Fuji,一家日本 壽司餐廳。

梁覺得自己競選昆士 理事一職比早先競選市委 委員一職更加合适,畢竟 自己的事業和家庭全部都 在昆士市,對該市了解并 且有感情。

"這個地方日新月 异"。

此外他覺得作爲理 事,比市委委員將有更多 的机會与選民打交道。

"你有更多的机會与 選民交流, 傾听他們的心 聲——這樣做也會給我自 己帶來更多益處。作爲理 事,每天都會有机會与選 民接触"。

梁的 對 McNamee在競選中强調 做好點滴小事,例如翻 修馬路、控制噪音、産除 積雪等。而梁的競選口號

是"溝通与交流"。梁本 人會講多种語言:英語、 廣東話、臺山話及少量普 通話。"溝通与交流"在 昆士市倒是蠻行得通:該 市10,500的居民都標榜 自己是華人。

"我會努力做好團結 与溝通工作。昆士是個多 种文化并存的城市,如果 市政府里有人了解兩种文 化,那毫無疑問將會有助

于市委的工作"。

此外,行人与司机的 交通安全問題也是梁的競 選點。

"這個地方交通事故 不斷。作爲進出城和通 往South Shore的必經之 路,這里交通荷載大,交 通堵塞見怪不怪。治理交 通問題也是我的工作重點

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反移民行動反響猛烈,有關方面表示擔憂

參議院移民改革失敗,民間反移民情緒濃重

撰文: 史亞當

今年初夏時分美國參 議院移民改革條案未被通 過。但是一些亞裔美國人 及其他移民權益組織對聯 邦政府和全國各地紛紛提 案甚至已經通過反移民條 例表示擔憂。

"參議院没能推動綜 合全面的移民改革,但是 移民改革中反移民的一面 卻立竿見影帶來了种种消 极影響"——亞裔美國人 權益公正中心的Karen k. Narasaki在本周早些時候 的一場電話會議中如是 說。

Narasaki的組織和其它一些移民組織,如"國家移民法律中心"、"南

亞美國明日領導人"等,都不約而同的覺察到贊成 移民改革議案的一些人對 該議案没有被通過心怀不 滿。這种不滿使得這些人 做出种种努力來限制非法 甚至合法移民的權益。

涅華達州參議員 John Ensign的那款没有 被通過的教育條案的修補 法案就是個例子。在這個 修補法案中,只要移民無 法提供本人可以合法工作 的証明,那么無論該移民 是否已經成爲美國公民, 其社會保障權都不會得到 認可。持這种主張的一派 人還試圖引用佐治亞州和 弗基尼亞州的做法:懲罰 無備案的移民,限制他們 獲得社會資助。

這一派人所持有的主 張反移民情緒濃重,因而 也受到質疑和反對。

"那些在全國上下大 大小小的城市和地區通過 的各法律條案是針對非法 移民,而不是合法移民 的。如果有人想把這些 法律條案的應用目標人群 擴大到合法移民上,那是 惡劣的違背條案初衷的作 法"——John Keeley, 移民研究中心發言人。

John Keeley 并没有參加電話會議,但他表示,"如果有人企圖限制合法移民的權益,無論是誰,有何背景,

我都會跟他們究竟到底。"Keeley認爲合法移民中的大多數人是支持合法移民的,"他們也反對非法移民。畢竟美國是個講法律的國家,并且大多數美國人都有公正的心他"。

然而在電話會議中, 与會者的言詞話語充滿了 反移民的色彩。這种論調 通過電話會議傳播到了美 國的廣大地區。

"聯邦政府的移民改革目前仍在原地踏步,而移民們的生活卻不能因此而停滯不前","南亞美國明日領導人"的執行主任Deepa Lyer透露他們的組織收到許多南亞移民申請人的投訴,說他們的移民申請進展极其緩慢。

此外,Narasaki确認 一些提案中的确提到要 限制對合法移民的食品補 助, "我們發現在修補法 案中,每一塊內容都有針 對合法移民的"。

不過電話會議中也提

到了一些爲移民提供的 待遇,例如"外籍少數 民族發展、信仰与教育 法案",又稱"追夢法 案"。這個法案爲16歲前 以非法方式進入美國的未 成年人提供合法的教育。

移 民 組 織 的 Narasaki說早期的移民組 織正在進行重新定位和重 組。他自己的組織主張利 于移民的改革,不論該移 民是合法還是非法。

波士 頓 本地 議員 Felix Arroyo目前正努力 于一項令綠卡持有者擁 有本地投票權的措施。 在七月三十一日爲這項措 施而召開的听証會上,許 多亞裔團体的領導人,如 來自Vieaid組織的Hiep Chu及唐人街居民聯合會 Henry Yee等,都表達了 對這項措施的贊成。

Yee在听証會上强調, "眾多的合法居民因爲不是美國公民而無法進行投票選舉"。

(翻譯: 許可可)



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